

CrR 18. PLACE OF PROSECUTION AND TRIAL (ASSIGNMENT OF CASES)

Cases involving federal felonies committed in the Western District of Washington's six (6) "Seattle" counties (Island, King, San Juan, Skagit, Snohomish and Whatcom), in the absence of a court order directing otherwise, shall be assigned equally among the active Seattle district judges; and those in the other thirteen (13) "Tacoma" counties shall likewise be assigned equally among the active Tacoma district judges. In cases involving multiple felony charges committed in both "Seattle" and "Tacoma" counties, the U.S. Attorney's Office may designate the case as a Seattle or Tacoma case, subject to reassignment upon motion of a defendant, or upon the court's own motion, based upon the convenience of the defendant(s) and the witnesses, and the prompt administration of justice.

The above shall also apply to all proceedings before U.S. district judges in cases involving misdemeanors, including petty offenses and infractions.

Assignments are subject to such changes as may be established by the chief judge for the purposes of equalization of case assignments to all active judges of the district.

The place of trial shall be the courtroom regularly assigned to the judge handling the case, unless otherwise ordered. A party wishing trial at some other place within the district or elsewhere shall move for the same within the time allowed for filing pretrial motions under these rules.

[Effective May 1, 1992; amended effective July 1, 1997.]